CHAPTER XI—MISCELLANEOUS.

(i) Geology.

1207. The interest evinced by the mining public to obtain mineral concessions for prospecting and mining during the year was greater than in the previous year. There was a steady increase in the number of applications received for grant of mineral concessions and also licences for quarrying building and ornamental stones. General.

1208. At the third meeting of the Mineral Advisory Board held at Srinagar, the revision of rates of royalty and dead rent on minerals were examined and an increase in the rates of royalty by 50 per cent of the existing rates in respect of some minerals was recommended to the Government of India. This was given effect to from 1st April 1956.

1209. The Bureau of Mineral Development was declared as an Industrial Concern from 15th December 1955. The value of minerals produced by the Bureau was Rs. 7,51,120 (Rs. 5,87,192).

1210. The revenue and expenditure of the Department were Rs. 17,75,720 and Rs. 7,34,143, respectively as against the budget grant for Rs. 12,50,635 and Rs. 8,22,060, respectively.

1211. Six schemes relating to mineral development in the State during the Second Five-Year Plan were sanctioned at a total cost of Rs. 23 lakhs.

1212. The total value of minerals produced during the year 1955 was Rs. 5,82,29,084.

1213. The total value of minerals produced during the year were:—

	1954 Value Rs.	*1955 Value* Rs.
Gold and Silver ...	5,21,04,368	4,89,96,941
Other minerals ...	63,86,170	92,32,143
Total ...	5,84,90,538	5,82,29,084

MISCELLANEOUS

Inspection of Mining Lease and Prospecting Licence Blocks.

1214. There had been a large increase in the number of mining leases and prospecting licences. Out of 279 mineral concessions, 99 blocks were inspected and the defects noticed by way of encroachment, unsystematic work, etc., were set right. In addition, about 31 blocks in Bellary District were also inspected and survey and demarcation checked.

1215. Two hundred and ten mining leases were current during the year as against one hundred and sixty-four in the previous year.

1216. The total area covered by mining leases was 1,00,850 acres.

1217. There were 858 quarrying licences current for quarrying building and ornamental stones in different parts of the State, as against 848 in the previous year. A sum of Rs. 29,757 was collected as royalty and application fee.

1218. The following statement shows the quantity of fine gold and silver produced by the four mining companies:—

(*a*) *Gold.*—

		Ozs.	Rs.
Mysore mines	...	62,432	1,57,04,392
Champion Reef	...	61,394	1,54,35,112
Oorgaum	...	577	1,47,672
Nundydroog	...	70,141	1,76,48,418
Total	...	1,94,544	4,89,35,594

(*b*) *Silver.*—

Mysore Mines	...	4,161	17,687
Champion Reef	...	3,793	19,689
Oorgaum	...	54	230
Nundydroog	...	4,137	23,741
Total	...	12,145	61,347

Iron Ore.

1219. The total quantity of iron ore produced during the year amounted to 4,79,173 tons. Of this, a quantity of 1,03,732 tons valued at Rs. 13,90,000 was produced by the Kemmangundi and Tanigebyle Mines worked by the Mysore Iron and Steel Works and directly used in the blast

furnace. The remaining quantity of 3,75,441 tons was entirely exported outside India. The share of Chitaldrug District was 87,538 tons and that of Bellary District 2,87,903 tons.

Manganese Ore.

1220. Manganese mining industry continued to thrive during the year. The total production from all the districts amounted to 1,68,771 tons. Most of the ore was exported outside India, excepting a small quantity consumed by the Mysore Iron and Steel Works, Bhadravati.

1221. The following industrial minerals are found in the State.—

Asbestos.—in Idegondahalli of Hassan District.

Beryl.—in Dodkadnur of Hassan District.

Corundum.—in Kalyadi and also in Bommenhalli in Mysore Taluk.

Feldspar.—near Thondebhavi, Kolar District.

Dolomite.—from Shankergudda mines in Shimoga District.

Garnet.—from the Shankergudda mines in Hassan District.

Graphite.—in Ganacharpura, Kolar District.

Kaolin.—in Bageshpura, Hassan District.

Kyanite.—in Kalyadi, Hassan District.

Mica.—in Mundur, Mysore District.

Ochres.—in Jambunatha area of Bellary District

Red Earth.—in Bellary District.

Soapstone.—in Bageshpura, Hassan District.

Staurolite.—in Thirumalapura, Hassan District.

Vermiculite.—in Bageshpura, Hassan District.

Yellow Ochres.—in Polucherlu and Mastenhalli villages, in Kolar District.

Limestone.—in Bhadigund, Shimoga District.

1222. The production and value of minerals mined by the Bureau of Mineral Development were—

Raw Materials.—		*Quantity Tons*	*Value Rs.*
Raw clay	...	12,250	1,10,250
China clay	..	537	48,330
Aluminous clay	...	2,427	48,540
Chromite (Byrapur)	...	3,116	2,49,280
Thirthahalli clay	...	100	5,000
Manganese ore	...	7,330	1,83,250

Raw Materials.		*Quantity Tons.*	*Value Rs.*
Asbestos	...	143	21,450
Feldspar	...	849	16,980
Vermiculite	...	349	10,470
Graphite	...	365	18,250
Soapstone (bricks)	...	9,380	37,520
Beryl	...	3	1,800

1223. The sale of different minerals amounted to Rs. 4,39,079 (Rs. 3,89,413). The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 5,20,982.

Second Five-Year Plan.

1224. The different schemes of mineral development and exploration proposed to be taken up by the Department were considered by the State Committee for Development and Planning in May 1955 and the following six Schemes were included under the Second Five Year-Plan at a cost of Rs. 23 lakhs:—

1. Exploitation of Chromite deposits.
2. Development of Soapstone Industry.
3. Exploration of Sulphide ore in Chitaldrug District.
4. Plant for Beneficiation of Manganese ore.
5. Refining of China clay.
6. Mineral survey and exploitation of economic mineral deposits in the Malnad.

1225. The scheme No. 3 relating to mineral survey and exploration has been deleted as the same is stated to overlap the work of the Government of India organisations.

(ii) Archæology.

Conservation of ancient monuments.

1226. A number of protected monuments were inspected in connection with their repairs and conservation during the year. Among the important monuments inspected were, the Sri Ramadevaru temple at Kudalur, Channapatna taluk, Sri Lakshminarasimha temple at Vighnasante, Tiptur taluk, Sri Divyalingesvara temple at Haradanahalli, Chamarajanagar taluk and Sri Ranganathaswami temple at Magadi.

1227. The Siddhesvara temple at Belagutti which is a typically late Chalukya monument built by the Sindas is in an advanced state of decay.